

Sinclair  
Broadcasting's  
decision to force  
their stations to  
air a biased  
political  
documentary days  
before a national  
election, despite  
local preference, is  
another clear  
example of the  
dangers of media  
consolidation.

Such media use the  
public airwaves free  
of charge, and are  
obligated by law to  
serve the public  
interest, a concept  
seemingly ignored  
more than enforced,  
these days. When  
large companies  
control too many  
stations, we get  
more of what's good  
for their corporate  
health and little of  
what we need for a  
healthy democracy.  
Instead of something  
force-fed us from  
"News Central" in a  
big American city  
far away, it's  
important that we  
see real people from  
around the world and  
at home. We also  
need more "reality  
checks" on political  
ads and the issues  
that matter.

Sinclair's actions,  
among other recent  
examples, show why  
we need to  
strengthen media  
ownership rules, not  
weaken them. They  
also show why the  
license renewal  
process needs to  
involve more than a  
postcard.  
Thank you,

S.E. Hammond,  
lifelong Republican